

Atty Docket No. 019417-000111US

PTO FAX NO.: 1-703-872-9306

ATTENTION: Examiner Michael C. Maskulinski

Group Art Unit 2184

**OFFICIAL COMMUNICATION**

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**FOR THE PERSONAL ATTENTION OF****EXAMINER Michael C. Maskulinski****CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that the following documents in re Application of William P. Brown et al., Application No. 09/657,258, filed September 7, 2000 for METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR IMPLEMENTING SHARED DISK ARRAY MANAGEMENT FUNCTIONS are being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Documents Attached

1. Communication regarding the earlier submission of an Information Disclosure Statement (1pg)
2. Information Disclosure Statement and Form PTO/SB08/A (3 pages)
3. Stamped Return Postcard for Information Disclosure Statement (1 pg.)

Number of pages being transmitted, including this page: 6

Dated: January 19, 2005

Marta Vanegas  
Marta R. Vanegas

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TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP  
Two Embarcadero Center, Eighth Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94111-3834  
Telephone: 925-472-5000  
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PATENT  
Docket No.: 019417-000111US

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: Marta Vanegas

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

William P. Brown et al.

Application No.: 09/657,258

Filed: September 7, 2000

For: METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR  
IMPLEMENTING SHARED DISK ARRAY  
MANAGEMENT FUNCTIONS

Examiner: Maskulinski, Michael C.

Art Unit: 2113

COMMUNICATION REGARDING THE  
EARLIER SUBMISSION OF AN  
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

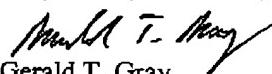
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants are in receipt of the Notice of Allowance and Fee(s) Due mailed by the Office on December 15, 2004 in connection with the subject patent application. Upon careful review of our file, it appears that we have not yet received initialed copies of the Information Disclosure Statement filed on January 23, 2002 and received by the Office on February 8, 2002. If the Examiner is in possession of the art, Applicants respectfully request consideration of the cited documents and copies of the corresponding initialed Information Disclosure Statements.

Attached for the Examiner's convenience are copies of the previously filed Information Disclosure Statement, form PTO/SB/08A and the corresponding date-stamped postcard. If additional copies of the cited references are required for the Examiner's consideration, Applicants will promptly forward them.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Gerald T. Gray  
Reg. No. 41,797

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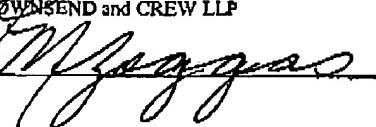
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

PATENT  
Attorney Docket No.: 019417-000111US

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

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JAN 19 2005

On 1/23/02  
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

William P. Brown et al.

Application No.: 09/657,258

Filed: September 7, 2000

For: METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR  
IMPLEMENTING SHARED DISK  
ARRAY MANAGEMENT FUNCTIONS

Examiner:

Art Unit: 2184

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.97 and  
§1.98

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The references cited on attached form PTO/SB/08A are being called to the attention of the Examiner. Copies of the references are enclosed. It is respectfully requested that the cited references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

As provided for by 37 CFR 1.97(g) and (h), no inference should be made that the information and references cited are prior art merely because they are in this statement and no

William P. Brown et al.  
Application No.: 09/657,258  
Page 2

PATENT

representation is being made that a search has been conducted or that this statement encompasses all the possible relevant information.

Applicant believes that no fee is required for submission of this statement, since it is being submitted prior to the first Office Action. However, if a fee is required, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct such fee from the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 20-1430. Please deduct any additional fees from, or credit any overpayment to, the above-noted Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

*Gerald T. Gray*  
Gerald T. Gray  
Reg. No. 41,797

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PTO/SB/03A (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				Complete If Known	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Application Number	09/657,258
				Filing Date	September 7, 2000
				First Named Inventor	
				Group Art Unit	2184
				Examiner Name	
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	019417-000111US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials *	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
	AA	5,611,049		Pitts, W. M.	03/11/1997	
	AB	6,085,234		Pitts, W. M.	07/04/2000	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 18 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

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TO THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Please stamp the date of receipt of the following document(s)

RE: METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR IMPROVING SHARED DISK ARRAY  
MANAGEMENT FUNCTIONS

TITLE OF DOCUMENT(S):

Information Disclosure Statement; PTO/SB/08A and 2 References

Application No.: 09/657,258

File No.: 019417-00011US

Date Mailed: 1/23/02

Atty/Secty: GTG/gtz

WC 9036201 v1

